



# THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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## CHINA LAUNCHES BALLISTIC MISSILES NEAR TAIWAN COAST

The Chinese military on Thursday launched a four-day war game and held "precision missile strikes" in the Taiwan Strait. Chinese state media said the exercises are meant to simulate an air and sea blockade around Taiwan. Beijing's action came a day after US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi concluded her one-day visit to the island, ignoring China's fierce warnings. On its part, Taiwan said it scrambled jets on Thursday to warn away 22 Chinese aircraft in its air defence zone | **P12**

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## Kharge present, ED scans Young Indian's office

It's vendetta, says Cong amid uproar in RS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
@ New Delhi

A day after sealing the office premises of the Sonia and Rahul Gandhi-owned Young Indian Ltd, the Enforcement Directorate searched it on Thursday even as the Opposition attacked the government over the alleged misuse of probe agencies to target political rivals.

The ED began its search after Young Indian Ltd office bearer Mallikarjun Kharge reached the Herald House building in the afternoon. It had summoned the 80-year-old Kharge, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha to be present during the duration of the searches.

Kharge's presence was sought as he is the principal officer of the company. Under the rules, searches on premises cannot be carried out in the absence of the owner of a property, his representatives or the person in charge.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the agency interrogated Kharge for hours. "Kharge...has been undergoing interrogation...His ordeal is continuing," he said while expressing his solidarity

with him. In all, Kharge was questioned for over 8 hours.

Terming the summons to Kharge and his subsequent questioning during working hours of Parliament an "insult" to the legislature, the Congress alleged that "Modishahi" had reached a new low.

The *National Herald* case pertains to alleged irregularities during its acquisition in 2010.

Earlier in the day, Kharge and Leader of the House (Rajya Sabha) Piyush Goyal clashed in the Upper House over the ED summons. Kharge raised the matter during Question Hour, saying the ED summons was an attempt to intimidate the Congress but the party would not be cowed down. "This House is functioning and I am the Leader of Opposition. I have received a summons from the ED to appear before it when a Parliament session is on. Is it



Eight hours

Kharge was with the ED at Young Indian office for 8 hours. He later tweeted, "If they want to make the process a punishment, I will embrace it. Resilience is in @INCIndia's blood just like cowardice is in BJP's."

fair?" he asked. "If we carry on like this, will our democracy remain alive?" he added.

Rebutting the allegations, Goyal denied that the government interfered in the functioning of law enforcement agencies, adding Congress leaders should face the law.



Union Minister Amit Shah in Bengaluru on Thursday | **HANARAJA GADGAL**

## 'Inflation a global concern, not limited to India'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

UNION Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation Amit Shah on Thursday said inflation in the country was due to global situation. The minister's statement comes in the wake of increasing attacks on the BJP-led Central government over rising inflation.

Addressing the third edition of 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' conference organised by the Ministry

of Culture and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Bengaluru, Shah said there has been a lot of discussion on the value of rupee and also inflation, but one needs to look at the currency value of Europe, Japan, Britain, Brazil and China.

He said that in the United States, inflation rate was 2.8 per cent which is now 9.8 per cent, in Turkey it is 73.5 per cent and in Brazil it is 12.3 per

cent, whereas in India it is 7.1 per cent. India's GDP growth is 7.4 per cent as against the US' 2.3 per cent, Germany's 1.2 per cent and China's 3.3 per cent, which shows that the government's policies and implementation are in the right direction, he claimed.

Amit Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given an all-inclusive government in the last eight years. "Since 2014, PM Modi has given 'Sarva

Sparshi, Sarva Samaveshi' governance to the country. With our Atmanirbar Bharat and Make-in-India initiatives which have laid the foundation for growth for the next 25 years, we can say that no one can take India lightly anymore," he said.

The government is giving free gas cylinder, power, houses and water to people who were struggling and they are now able to buy goods contributing to India's GDP growth, he said. **P4**

## PU STUDENTS' PLEA: HC ISSUES NOTICE TO KEA

YATHIRAJU AND NAMRATA SINDHWANI @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court has issued a notice to the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) after hearing a plea of repeat students who are protesting against the Ir pre-university (PU) marks not being considered while deciding the final Common Entrance Test (CET) ranks. Justice S R Krishna Kumar issued the notice and adjourned the matter for hearing on Monday.

Around 24,000 repeat students appeared for the exam this year and have been protesting against their marks not being added to the final score. The petitioner Eshwar and others, through their advocate Shatabhish Shivanna, contended that non-consideration of marks was in violation of the CET-2006 Admission Rules leading to depletion in ranks and was unfair to repeat students. The students complained that the KEA decision was discriminatory in nature.

The KEA had issued a notice on August 1, 2022 putting off the verification process until further notice. **P5**

**Glitches mar day one of CUET-UG 2**  
THE first day of the second phase of CUET-UG was a total washout, as students could not take the crucial exam due to technical glitches at the examination centres **P10**

## INDIA HIGH ON TEJAS-WIN

Historic medal

Late inclusion in the team, Tejaswin Shankar became the first Indian to win a high jump medal at the Commonwealth Games late on Wednesday. He managed to win a bronze clearing 2.22m



Tejaswin Shankar during medal ceremony | **AP**

## BOXING

More medals assured

Sagar Ahlawat, Amit Panghal and Jasmine storming into semis to assure India medals with dominating victories. However, Olympic medalist Lovlina Borgohain lost

## SQUASH

Ghosal-Pallikal in last four

Dipika Pallikal and Saurav Ghosal sailed into mixed doubles quarterfinals with a clinical 11-8, 11-4 win over the Wales pair of Emily Whitlock and Pater Creed | **P15**

## EXPRESS READ

### Chemistry PG held in ₹1.4K cr Maha drug bust

Mumbai: In one of the biggest drug busts, the Mumbai Police seized over 700 kg of a synthetic stimulant worth ₹1,400 crore and arrested five persons, including a chemistry grad who had cracked the formula for its mass production | **P10**

### Heroin worth ₹112 cr seized at KSR rly station

Bengaluru: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on Monday caught a man at the KSR Bengaluru Railway Station and seized heroin worth ₹112 cr smuggled from Ethiopia | **P3**

| NATIONWIDE  | Aug 3  | Aug 4  | KARNATAKA   | Aug 3 | Aug 4 |
|-------------|--------|--------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Fresh cases | 10,35  | 19,093 | Fresh cases | 2,18  | 1,92  |
| Recoveries  | 19,821 | 20,419 | Recoveries  | 1,645 | 2,107 |
| Deaths      | 47     | 53     | Deaths      | 2     | 1     |



## SAILING AWAY IN A TRACTOR

As heavy rain swamped Bengaluru's roads yet again on Thursday, residents of Rainbow Drive Layout on Sarjapur Road were forced to station a tractor to access useable roads. Meanwhile in Tumakuru district, a 70-year-old woman was swept away in floodwaters and a 28-year-old man was found dead inside his small dwelling due to floods | **WOODKUMART | P2,5**

## Tricolour on Soudha: Hoisters paid only ₹50 for years



Preparations for Independence Day celebration underway in front of Vidhana Soudha as heavy rain lashed the city on Thursday | **SHRIRAM BN**

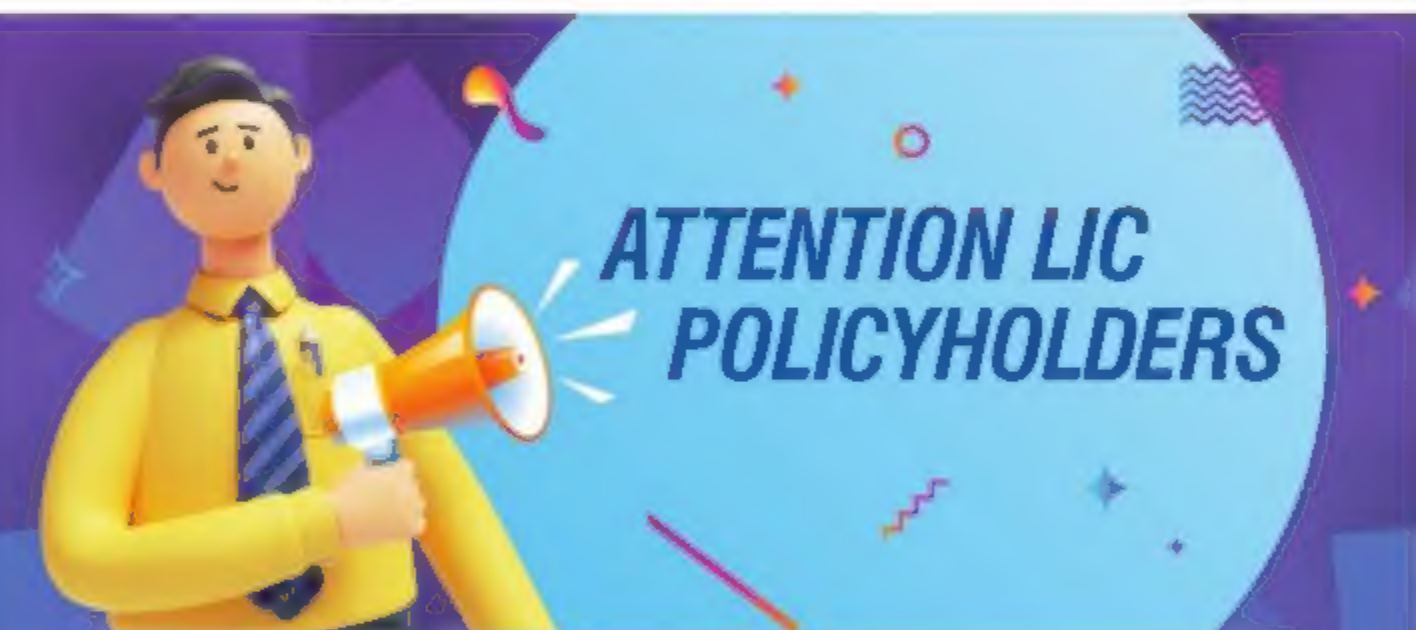
ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

WHEN the entire nation is celebrating 'Har Ghar Tiranga' as part of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations, here are some unsung heroes who have been dutifully hoisting the Tricolour on Vidhana Soudha everyday and are paid a meagre Rs 50 per day, besides their regular salary. All they are asking for now is to increase the allowance to Rs 100.

Recruited as Group 'D' employees, there are seven such workers who work in three shifts everyday to carry out their flag duty. They work along with home guards or police personnel. The flag pole which is 30-feet high is on the fourth floor which is 150 feet high from the ground. This means that flags that we see from outside Vidhana Soudha are fluttering 180 feet above ground level. Employees on flag duty use lifts till the third floor and then take the staircase. **P6**

Hoisting the flag on Vidhana Soudha is not so simple. There are certain rules which need to be followed. They have to be hoisted at prescribed timings

Antony Das, senior staffer on flag duty



As per Insurance Act, 1938 (amendment 2015), Section 38 (5)

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